

**DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
YOUTH PROGRAMME
CONCEPT PAPER**

PREPARED BY: LEANDRA SYLVESTER-ROSE

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VISION

Self reliant youth

STRATEGIC GOAL

To enable youth to take responsibility for positive lifestyles, and to contribute to and participate in family and community activities

Executive Summary

The Youth Programme believes that our youth are the future of this country. However many are alienated and feel hopeless. This concept paper describes the current reality of youth in the Western Cape and outlines strategies that will be used to address these challenges they face. It is also based on the assumption that investing in the development of youth today will create a self reliant society in the future Also to provide the youth a second chance to develop into positive young people, who are active in their communities and away from pathologies.

The strategy requires a shift in statutory interventions to the development of youth by creating awareness of their rights and responsibilities, early intervention through skills development and training, the opportunity to prove themselves and the provision of accessible integrated developmental services at local level and provincial level. Part of the strategy is also to develop a new type of thinking and commitment amongst young people through community service.

To achieve this, the Youth Development Programme is focusing on the providing appropriate coordinated support, even to the extent where young people are afforded a second chance to develop themselves after any setback in life, for young people and their families. The programme builds on the strengths of young people through skills development and community service in order to facilitate personal growth, volunteerism and accountability. This lays the foundation for a positive future and helping youth to become responsible, caring, loyal and participative citizens.

1. Introduction

The purpose of the programme

The purpose of the Youth Programme is to enable youth to take responsibility for positive lifestyles, and to contribute to and participate in family and community activities. This is important because the current generation has inherited the legacy of the inequalities of the past and they represent the largest part of our population. They will be creating the future of South Africa but currently they are beset with challenges such as crime, drugs, unemployment, HIV/AIDS. Many youth feel hopeless and vulnerable. South Africa has shown that it appreciates its youth by putting in place effective structures and strategies to ensure that young people participate fully in national and community life. Although these structure and policies are in place young people are still not integrated in the mainstream of economic growth and development. The Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa (ASGISA) and Vukuzenzele recognises that young people should be at the centre of economic growth. This means that they have to be willing, have skills and be able to identify and take their place in the economic sphere.

The youth programme has a new developmental approach which seeks to encourage them to contribute to family and community activities as well as at their own health mental and emotional well being.

This approach is holistic, positive and encourages the full participation of youth in developmental processes. It promotes self representation and self determination by recognising youth as a normal phase of life.

The programme seeks to maintain and increase the capacity of youth in order to support themselves and to contribute to the wellbeing of those around them by creating an enabling environment for economic empowerment. In order to create a new cadre with new value systems the programme focuses on nation building, patriotism, social cohesion and volunteerism.

2. Definitions

The White Paper on Social Welfare (1997), defines a young person as a women or man aged from 16 to 30 years. Whilst the Child Care Act (1983) defines a child as a male or female aged from 0 to 18 years.

The National Youth Commission Act (1996) broadly defines and refers to young people as all those between the ages of 14 and 35. Whilst some departments ascribe to this definition most have identified more specific, targeted age categories to enhance the achievability of their interventions.

The United Nations General Assembly has for example defined the youth between the ages of 15 and 24 years, arguing that the term youth varied in different societies around the world and that definitions of youth had changed continuously in response to fluctuating political, economic and socio-cultural

circumstances. Correctional Services refers to young offenders as all those in the age range 14 to 25 (National Youth development Policy framework 2002-2007: 7).

The National Youth Development Policy Framework defines young people as all those between the ages 15 and 28. (National Youth development Policy framework 2002-2007: 8). The National Department of Social Development defines the youth between the ages of 18 and 35. For the purpose of Western Cape Youth Development Programme the focus will be on those between 15 and 25 simply because the Department promotes holistic development of young people. The interventions of the Youth Programme will therefore include young mothers, disabled youth, and youth living with HIV/Aids, out of school youth, youth in school, unemployed and employed youth, youth in rural areas and those who clashed with the (Implementation plan for youth focal points, 2007:3).

3. Legislation and International Obligations

South Africa has supported various international obligations and agreements that seeks to guide and frame youth development at a global level. These include the following:

INTERNATIONAL INSTRUMENT/AGREEMENT	KEY OBJECTIVES
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Millennium Declaration – Millennium Development Goals 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eight goals pledged by all UN member states to enhance development and these goals include eradicate extreme poverty and hunger, promote gender equality and empower women and this refer to the elimination of gender disparity in secondary education
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Copenhagen Declaration on Social Development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provides a framework for action to member states on global and national social development
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEPAD 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Eradication of poverty and the acceleration of the empowerment of women is one of the four objectives of this policy.

Over the last decade various policies have been developed that give impetus and add to youth development. The key youth development policy instrument is the National Youth Development Policy Framework (NYDPF) developed by the NYC. The strategic objectives of the NYDPF are:

- Locate youth development in a holistic strategy that encompasses political, economic and social dimensions
- Build an integrated and sustainable approach to youth development and youth development initiatives based on multi – sectoral interventions and creating enabling environments
- Identify priority areas and sectors of possible intervention in terms of the existing cluster system used in government and experiences of government and the NYC in the past 7 years
- Clarify roles and responsibilities of the stakeholders in youth development(young people, government, civil society and independent institutions).

In addition the Western Cape Provincial Department of Social Development's Youth Development Programme supports the following legislation/policies/guidelines:

POLICY/LEGISLATION/ IMPLEMENTATION PLANS	KEY OBJECTIVES
Constitution of South Africa	Provides for a society based on democratic values, social justice and including improving the quality of life for all whilst building a South Africa
National Youth Commission Act	Provides for the establishment, objectives and function Commission
National Youth Development Policy Framework and National Youth Policy	Provides a framework for mainstreaming of youth development intervention areas, specific needs, challenges and opportunities
White paper for Social Welfare	Provides principles, guidelines, recommendations, proposed policies for developmental social welfare.
Social Assistance Acts	Provide for the administration and payment of social assistance
Provincial Growth and Development Strategy	<p>The Ikapa Strategies was developed in 2005 and include following can be made applicable to Youth Development i.e.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Poverty Reduction strategy that aims to reduce interventions such as job creation, etc. • Human capital development strategy that emphasizes education and training. • Scarce Skills strategy that emphasizes the development economic participation especially for young people the Western Cape. • Social Capital Formation Strategy that focuses on how it shows how the Province's Population is changing. It also looks at violence and crime in communities and what is required for cohesion within and across communities in order to make 'A Home For All' • Burden of Disease and Health Care 2010 documents the role of all Provincial Departments in ensuring a capable and healthy population. This is especially important as a number of disabilities through appropriate interventions.
Skills Development Act	To provide an institutional framework to devise and implement workplace strategies to develop and improve the skills of the South African workforce
Inter governmental Relations Framework Act	To legislate on Social Capital Formation
National Youth Service Implementation Plan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Focuses on three elements: structured learning (skills development), community service (voluntary) and an exit strategy (internships, employment enhancement opportunities, bursaries etc).
Youth Focal Point implementation guidelines	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotes accessible integrated service delivery at all levels
Vision 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Guiding document to meet the MD Declaration Obligations • Objectives and targets include reduction of unemployment, skills development, assistance to small businesses, employment and sustainable community livelihoods. • Reduction of poverty through economic development. • Ensure that all South Africans particularly the most vulnerable youth can fully exercise their constitutional rights.
ASGISA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Accelerated and Shared Growth Initiative for South Africa commits South Africa to a 6% growth rate as a prime objective to reduce poverty. • This initiative gives specific reference to shortage of skills

All consulted papers promote integrated service delivery that addresses the holistic development of youth through inclusive interventions that promote self reliance.

4. Situation Analysis

Demographic profile of the Youth in the Western Cape

The Census 2001 revealed specific youth information regarding age group, population group and gender in the Western Cape (**See Table 1**). This will be followed by the Western Cape Community Survey 2007 regarding age group, population group and gender (**See Table 2**). A comparison between Tables 1 and 2 follow afterwards.

Table 1: Census 2001 statistics by age group, population and gender in the Western Cape.

Age group	African		Coloured		Indian		White	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female
15-19	56 110	66 042	126545	128456	2 156	2 253	32 765	31 883
20-24	76 794	81 926	102077	107065	2 203	2 245	29 358	29 058
25-29	83 243	79 980	96 891	104278	1 938	2 036	27 877	29 489
30-34	62 590	57 048	96 596	108735	1 847	1 916	30 756	33 381
Total	278737	284996	422109	448534	8144	8450	120756	123811

Table 1 reveals that the highest number of youth in the Western Cape is in Coloured population age groups 15-34 (both sexes), followed by the African population. In the Coloured population the highest number of both sexes is in the age group 15-19. In the African population females present the highest numbers in the age group 20-24 (102 077) and males in the age group 25-29 (83 243). The Indian population in the age groups 15-34 of both sexes has the lowest numbers. In the White population the highest number of males (32 765) is in the age group 15-19 and females (33 381) in the age group 30-34.

The Community Survey 2007 revealed the following regarding age group, population group and gender in the Western Cape:

Table 2: Western Cape Community Survey 2007 by age group, population and gender.

Age group	African		Coloured		Indian		White	
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female

15-19	72 068	77 936	129395	126491	3 646	2 902	35 004	33 392
20-24	88 579	95 304	127049	123088	4 047	4 249	37 144	32 396
25-29	93 435	100274	105441	108955	2 873	3 721	28 235	28 691
30-34	87 897	83 241	100570	99 771	3 550	2 272	30 560	33 647
Total	341979	356755	462455	458305	14116	13144	130943	128126

According to **Table 2** the Coloured population in all the age groups and in both sexes presents the highest numbers in the Western Cape, followed by the African population. In the Coloured population the age group 15-19 presents the highest numbers of males (129 395) and females (125 491). The age group 25-29 presents the highest numbers of African males (93 435) and females (100 274). Most Indian males (4047) and females (4 249) are in the age group 20-24. In the White population the highest number of females (33 647) is in the age group 30-34 and males (37 144) in the age group 20-24 (Community Survey, 2007).

Comparing Census 2001 with the **Community Survey 2007**, some interesting findings emerge. The number of Coloured females in the age groups 15-19 and 30-34 decreased, whereas Coloured males in all age groups 15-34 increased from 422 109 in 2001 to 462 455 in 2007. The number of Indian population of both sexes in all age groups almost doubled since 2001, however still the lowest figures in the Western Cape. The White population of both sexes showed the slightest increase of all population groups since 2001. The African population showed a significant increase in both sexes in all the age groups 15-34 since 2001. African males in all age groups increased from 278 737 in 2001 to 341 979 in 2007. The same applies to females. African female figures increased from 284 996 in 2001 to 356 755 in 2007. The significant increase in the African population is the result of huge scale migration from the especially the Eastern Cape to urban areas (in particular Cape Town).

In 2005 the Western Cape's population was estimated at 4.93 million people, of whom 3.24 million (66%) resided in the City of Cape Town and 80% in the greater Cape Town. The youth are in the majority. In 2005, 63% of the population was under 35 years old (27% between 0 and 14 years old and 36% between 15 and 34). Of the remainder, 32% were between 35 and 64. The rest, 5.4% were more than 65 years old. The province's average population growth rate for the period 1995-2005 was 2.1%, which is higher than the national rate, reflecting its youthful character (City of Cape Town 2006, Population Projection for Cape Town 2001 to 2021).

SOCIAL RISK AND PROTECTIVE FACTORS AFFECTING THE YOUTH

Ward (2007:9) used a theoretical framework in her research on youth and gangs in Cape Town, where she identified certain risk and protective factors in young people's lives...

The youth are exposed to a number of risk factors operating at the level of the individual, the family, peer group, the neighbourhood and the broader socio-political context. These factors might increase the risk for antisocial behaviour (crime, substance abuse, gangs etc) or protect against it. Those youth who are exposed to more risk than protective factors are more likely to get involved in anti-social behaviour, while youth who are exposed to more protection than risk factors are more likely to follow pro-social behaviour in society. **Table 3** summarises the risk and protective factors that influence youth behaviour. (Ward's youth and protective factors formed the basis of Table 3. Other factors however, have been identified and added to make it applicable to youth behaviour in general).

Table 3: Youth risk and protective factors

Ecological level	Risk factors	Protective factors
Broader socio-political context	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poverty 	Youth employment opportunities
Neighbourhood and institutions of society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor television role models Media promoting violence and crime Poor policing High crime levels in neighbourhood Prison used as gang initiation High levels of drug activity in neighbourhood High levels of violence in neighbourhood 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Community cohesion & successful Tusong service No/low crime and drug neighbourhood High levels of school environment High numbers of organisations Government institution functioning
School, family and peer group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Poor family environments (domestic violence, alcohol and drug use, family members involve in crime, family members who are gangsters Adults involve youth in crime, offering bribes Peer group pressure Friends who are gangsters School dropouts 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Access to recreation facilities Family involvement in individual activities High level of family involvement activities Peer group support and healthy lifestyle for individual
Individual	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drug addiction Exposure to high crime level Low self esteem due to unstable family environment Sexual misconduct and exposure to HIV/Aids, STD's, unwanted pregnancies Revenge for gang killing Identity formation tasks of adolescence 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Positive role models Positive life skills training High levels of awareness abuse dangers, gangs and

(STD's stand for Sexual Transmitted Diseases)

The *first level* is the individual youth. The youth's age, race, gender and temperament are likely to influence how he or she interacts with risk factors. Another important aspect located at the individual

level is the opportunity to make choices, which is very much influenced by families, friends and the social environment.

The *second level* is situated in the family, peer group and school, where the individual is involved in continuous, face to face interaction with familiar people. These relationships are most influential in shaping youth's development, playing a strategic role in either protecting them (through role models, monitoring behaviour, and good relationships) or exposing them to risk behaviour (providing opportunities for anti-social behaviour).

The *third level* is situated in neighbours and particularly the interactions amongst young adolescents in the neighbourhood. Here, neighbourhood cohesion could be effective in preventing a range of negative outcomes for the youth, for example from child abuse to delinquency. Neighbourhood watches for example could play a preventative role in reporting crime, gang activities and substance abuse.

The *fourth level* is within the broader socio-political context. The focus here is on interventions directed towards reducing or eliminating poverty and increasing employment opportunities. Poverty does not cause anti-social behaviour or crime, but it does set the conditions under which delinquency, crime, violence and substance abuse flourish. Poor families are less able to send children to fee-paying schools, thus putting them at risk of dropping out of school; in poor and violent neighborhoods there is a risk of spending time with delinquent peers and so being drawn into anti-social behaviour.

The four levels cannot be viewed in isolation. Poverty for example, affects every risk and protective factor. The following youth risk factors have been identified:

UNEMPLOYMENT AND YOUTH IN THE WESTERN CAPE

Broad unemployment in SA in September 2005 was 38, 8%, significantly higher than the 25, 5% unemployment experienced in the Western Cape. The provincial unemployment rate increased by 4, 5% in the period 2000 to 2005. (Western Cape Provincial Economic Review and Outlook 2007)

The following table gives an indication of the Western Cape broad unemployment, 2000 and 2005.

Table 4: Composition of Western Cape broad unemployment, 2000 and 2005 (Provincial Treasury Calculations, Sept 2000 / LFS, Stats SA 2001/6)

	2000		2005			Total change	
	'000s	Share%	'000s	Share%	'000s	Change share %	Avg grt
African	183	42,9	246	41,6	64	38,3	
Coloured	220	51,8	306	51,7	85	51,6	
White	19	4,5	33	5,5	13	8,0	
Male	188	44,2	252	42,6	64	38,7	
Female	238	55,8	339	57,4	102	61,3	
15-24 years	174	40,9	246	41,7	72	43,6	
25-34 years	134	31,5	181	30,7	47	28,5	
35-44 years	67	15,8	94	15,9	27	16,3	
45-54 years	40	9,3	51	8,6	11	6,8	
55-65 years	10	2,4	18	3,1	8	4,8	
No education	10	2,3	8	1,4	-2	-1,0	
Grades 0-8	189	44,4	194	32,8	5	2,8	
Grades 9-11, NTC 1&11	128	30,0	231	39,1	104	62,6	
Grade 12 NTC 111	80	18,8	137	23,2	57	34,4	
Diploma/certificate	14	3,2	5	0,8	-9	-5,3	-
Degree	4	0,8	8	1,3	4	2,4	16,2
Total	426	100,0	591	100,0	166	100,0	6,8

Table 4 indicates that the Province's unemployment are almost exclusively to African (41, 6%) and Coloured (51, 7%), with only 5, 5% being white. In terms of gender, women present 57, 4% and men 42, 6% of the unemployed, despite the fact that men account for 52% of the labour force. Most notable is that the unemployed are concentrated in the younger age groups. In 2005, 41, 7% of the unemployed individuals were between the ages 15 and 24 years and a further 30, 7% were aged 25 to 34 years. Furthermore, over 70% of the unemployed have no more than grade 11. Although the proportion is slightly lower in 2005 than it was five years earlier, the number of unemployed individuals with grade 9 to 11 education rose dramatically over the period, by a statistically significant 12, 6 % a year. A similar growth rate is observed in the number of unemployed individuals with matric certificates (Western Cape Provincial Economic Review and Outlook 2007).

The implications of unemployment for the youth are that it increases social tension, lowers personal esteem and fuels already high levels of crime and violence. It exacerbates impact of HIV/Aids epidemic. Furthermore, it hampers provincial growth prospects because of the limited base of disposable income as well as the skills shortage affecting the tertiary sector. And finally, it discourages foreign investment (Western Cape State of the Environment Report 2005).

YOUTH AND SCHOOL DROPOUTS

In 2007, 33 787 (80, 6% percentage pass rate) learners passed Grade 12 in the Western Cape, almost the same number as in 2006 (Western Cape Education Department: 2005). Education is a key link in shaping the number and appropriateness of skills needed for economic performance. The urgent need for skills in the economy is met with several challenges in the educational performance in the province.

The province's Human Capital Development Strategy (2006) states that only 45-52% of learners who enrolled for Grade 1 will reach Grade 12. These drop-out and success rates at the Grade 12 level can be traced to, among others, the lack of numerical and reading skills in the first few years of schooling. The impact of school drop outs could lead to racial and socio-economic differentials in the quantity and quality of education making it difficult to achieve equality in the labour market. It could also lead to inequalities in teaching standards, teacher qualification and resources limit poorer pupils' access to good quality or tertiary education further. Finally, a poorly educated population increases unemployment problems and limits individuals' options and opportunities. (Western Cape State of the Environment Report, 2005: 96)

YOUTH AND CRIME

A large proportion (about 42%) of the prisoner population in South Africa prisons consists of youth under the age of 25 years (Correctional Services and the 2006 State of the Nation Address). The total number of youth in prisons in the Western Cape for the period July to November 2005 was 1921 (Department of Correctional Services, 2005).

According to the Prinsloo in the Burden of Diseases (2007: 23) report, the age distribution of deaths due to interpersonal violence in Cape Town for males and females show sharp increases in fatal violence from the age of 15 years. The distribution among males showed a peak in the 25 -29 year age category, whereas females fatalities peaked in the 35 – 39 year age category.

The National Injury Mortality Surveillance System (2005: 5) report on fatal injuries in Cape Town Metropolitan Area, revealed the following regarding external cause of violence by age: (age was unknown in 16 of the 2046 cases. Of the remaining cases, the average age of the deceased was 29 years). In the 0-14 years age group firearms (38, 2%) caused fatal injuries. **In the 15-24 age group cause of death was sharp force injury (51, 8%) followed by firearms (37, 2%). In the 25-34 age group cause of death was sharp force injury (50, 9%) followed by firearms (37, 3%). In the 35-44 age group cause of death was sharp force injury (52, 5%).** In the 45-54 age group cause of death was sharp force injury (41%) followed by firearms (30, 9%). In the 55-64 age groups cause of death was sharp force injury (35, 3%) followed by firearms (35, 3%) and in the 65 + age group cause of death was sharp force injury (37, 5%). The mentioned statistics revealed that the leading external cause of

death was sharp force injury, followed by firearms and that the age groups 15-24, 25-34 and 35-44 represents the highest percentages.

Furthermore, research on the nature and extent of crime and violence in schools in the Western Cape suggests that it is more prevalent in secondary than primary schools. Provincially representative studies indicate that twenty three percent of youth ages 12-17 in the province have been threatened with harm, have been fearful of being harmed, or have actually been hurt in a violent incident while they were at school. Learners are the most likely perpetrators of violence (2005 National Youth Victimization Survey).

The Western Cape Education Department reported 70 stabbings, nearly 90 incidents of gang violence and 118 pupil-on-pupil fights in schools in the province during 2007. The Safe Schools Division of the Departments' main concern, however, is the increase in substance abuse in communities and the consequences of learners being addicted. (Joseph, 2007:1)

Experts like Charles Parry from the Medical Research Council (MRC), Debbie van Stade from DSD and Shafiek Davids from the Sultan Bahu drug rehabilitation centre believe there is an increase in crime by young offenders. However, there is a lack of statistical data to support this perception (IOL special correspondent, 2007:1).

The impact of high level of crime is that it discourages local and foreign investment, resulting in an increase in the number of unemployed young adults. High crime levels create an insecure public with a poorer quality of life; it causes human injury and drives people to emigrate. Furthermore, it deters tourists, resulting in income loss and fewer jobs being created in the industry. And finally, it reduces confidence in the criminal justice system (Western Cape State of the Environment Report, 2005:134).

YOUTH AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

According to the Medical Research Council (MRC) more than 50% of those in treatment centres in the Western Cape are under 20 years of age and have Methamphetamine (Tik) as their primary drug of choice. Tik, alcohol and dagga are the most common drugs used. Coloured males continue to predominate consistently around 75% of patients (Breytenbach, 2006: 5). According to the SAPS, drug-related crime includes possession of and dealing in drugs, narcotics seizures, public intoxication and others. Drug-related crime increased in nearly every policing area in the city, with an increase of 17% since 2005/6. In the past five years Cape Town has seen an increase in drug related crime from around 5000 incidents per year to 25 000 per year in 2006. Areas mostly affected include Mitchells Plain, which shows an increase from 3064 in 2005/6 to 3683 in 2006/7 and Steenberg, which shows an increase from 1035 in 2005/6 to 1174 in 2006/7. Driving under the influence of alcohol and drugs also show an 18, 1% increase since 2005/6 (SAPS Annual Report for 2006/7).

Latest Substance Abuse findings

A new trend in drug abuse has surfaced in the Western Cape, in which addicts combine the effects of Tik and heroin to achieve what they call a “rollercoaster”. Also known as “yo-yoing”, users take Tik for its hyperactive high, quickly followed by heroin to achieve a “mellow” low. Sometimes the two are used together to “balance each other out”. Latest research by the MRC reveals that up to 35% of heroin addicts are also using Tik. The research also finds that up to 80% of heroin users in the province are Coloured, compared to a few years ago when most users were White. Users ranged from as young as 13 to the mid- 20s, while most users were adolescents (Nicholson, 2007:11).

New mental health data regarding South Africa’s youth’s high prevalence of substance abuse disorders is disturbing. The study revealed that many substance abusers actually do so in response to an underlying psychiatric disorder. According to Prof Dan Stein, lead study author and head of psychiatry at the University of Cape Town, the study of 4500 South Africans across the race spectrum found that 30% of people polled suffered from some sort of mental health disorder during their lifetime, with 13% reporting a substance abuse disorder. Major depression followed closely, affecting 10% of respondents, with a similar number affected by agoraphobia (anxiety disorder). Multiply disorder also showed up as common, with 11% of respondents reporting suffering two different disorders, and 3.5% having three or more disorders (Stein et al. 2007:3)

The study also found that the prevalence of alcohol abuse was consistent across age groups, substance abuse disorders affected particularly men and coloured people. Prof Stein attributed the especially high rate among Coloured people in the Western Cape to apartheid history, including the “dop” system of paying workers on wine farms with alcohol, as an important contributor to substance abuse. The study also found that lifetime prevalence estimates of disorders (anxiety, mood and substance use) are the highest in the Western Cape. The study suggested that there is a high level of unmet need for mental health services in South Africa (Stein et al. 2007:3).

These findings together with findings from household surveys (Reddy et al, 2002; Shisana et al, 2005) and mortality, trauma and crime studies (Matzopoulos, 2005; Peden et al 2001, Pluddemann et al, 2004), illustrate that the Western Cape has a high prevalence of substance-related problems among the youth. These findings present a compelling argument for the need for accessible substance abuse treatment in the province (Meyers, et al. 2007:7).

YOUTH AND GANGS

A large number of gangs in the Western Cape have been identified towards the end of 1999. Although the gang phenomenon existed for over a hundred years, gang activity started to become more prominent in the late 1970’s in the Western Cape. Official estimates put the number of gangs on the

Cape Flats at approximately 130, with a combined membership of about 100 000. A few of the estimated 130 gangs have become exceptionally powerful, large and dominate the gang scene, for example gangs like the Americans, the Hard Livings, the Sexy boys, the Junky Funky Kids and the Mongrels. The Americans gang, which is the largest, is believed to have approximately 5 000 members (Standing, 2005: 2).

The latest trends in gang activity in the Western Cape revealed a noticeable scaling down of gang wars during 2004 and 2005. It could be related to the apprehension of prominent gang leaders and opposing bail applications. According to the National Prosecution Authority, there were more than 40 gang related cases before the courts in the Western Cape during 2006 (NPA, 2006:07:21).

The beginning of 2006 showed a sudden rise in gang wars, especially in Hanover Park, Philippi and Mitchell's plain. The emergence of Tik has led to new fights over territory for drugs. Research reports indicate that gangs are recruiting younger members and that gangs are getting bigger, according to Leggett's findings in Manenberg (Schronen, 2004:4).

The Cape Flats drug dens are run like "7-Eleven franchises, with the kingpin supplying individual merchants-especially in the 5 000-strong Americans gang (Standing, 2005:11). Although gangs have, as far back as 1995 moved to rural areas, they have purchased property in small towns, opened legitimate businesses and recruit young pupils into the gang world (Kinnes, 2003:38). Gangs are targeting schools in the Western Cape and use the learners for drug sales and the school premises as a place of substance abuse (Breytenbach, 2006:2).

Recently, gangs have spread to traditional black areas with the main focus on robbery and hijackings. Gangs like the Russians, Palestinians, Iranians and Moscows are operating in Khayelitsha, Gugulethu, Langa and Nyanga. Some gangs are marking their territory by hanging sport shoes on power lines in parts of Nyanga. According to Councillor Ntambo from Nyanga:"There are areas in Nyanga where you can't just walk alone" (Hawker, 2006:6).

THE IMPACT OF GANGSTERISM ON COMMUNITIES

There exists an economic dependency (criminal economy) between communities and gangs, which could be described as a complex and varied relationship. Thousands of people in the communities are involved in the underworld economy-from brothels, shebeens, stolen goods and the drug trade to money laundering industries like taxis and tow-trucks. Many people that live around gang headquarters benefit by having their silence bought. They are assisted with rent payments, contributions are made to funerals, and sometimes their sons and daughters are employed as gangsters. In return, a "parcel" of drugs or a gun could be hidden in their homes (Carter in Häefele, 2003:17).

THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN YOUTH, GANGS AND SUBSTANCE ABUSE

Gangs have recently turned their activities to schools in the Western Cape. They use the learners as their medium for drug sales and the school premises as a place of substance abuse. This results in fighting for turfs on school grounds.

The Department of Community Safety's Directorate Risk Management sampled 133 schools and conducted a risk assessment early in 2006. A total of 61.6% of the 133 schools suffered from gang violence and robbery. Two in every five schools had drug merchants and peddling. Dagga smoking and the use of Tik accounted for 21% and 16.5% respectively. The use of these substances and competition for the drug markets appears to be the source of violence. The schools are a non-threatening niche for gangs as they target "captured audience" for their drugs (Bambanani School Safety Programme, DOCS, and 2006:12).

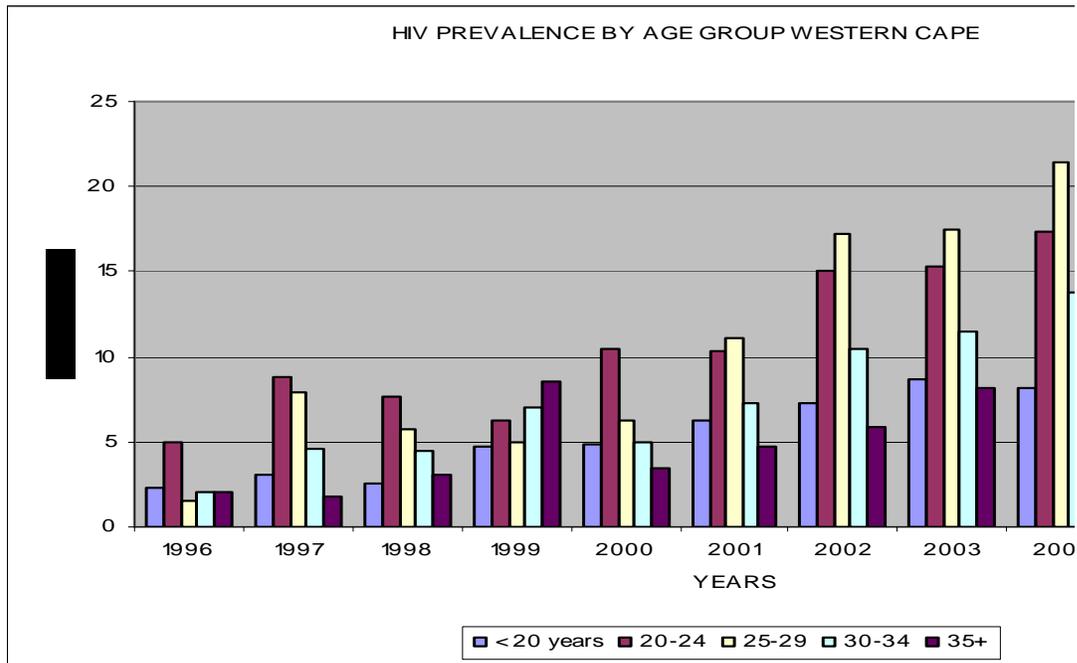
To add to the problem of gangs and drugs at schools, the South African National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (SANCA) found that Tik abuse doubled in the Western Cape the past year. Furthermore, 80% of its users are under 21 years and schools make only 7% of referrals to clinics. More than half of those needing drug or alcohol rehabilitation are referred to clinics by their families or check themselves in.

Finally, a MRC report (2001:1-2) comments on the initiatives on gang control, which revolve around criminality of gangs: "Do not forget the unmet social needs of the youth, which is one of the primary reasons they become gangsters in the first place. Lack of parental discipline, dysfunctional families, poverty etc might contribute to the youths' unmet social needs. In areas where the family structures are strong, gang activity is significantly lower".

YOUTH AND HIV/AIDS

The Western Cape Department of Health in collaboration with the National Department has been conducting annual anonymous HIV surveys amongst pregnant women attending select public health clinics in South Africa.

Figure 1: National HIV survey: HIV prevalence by age group: Western Cape 2001- 2006.



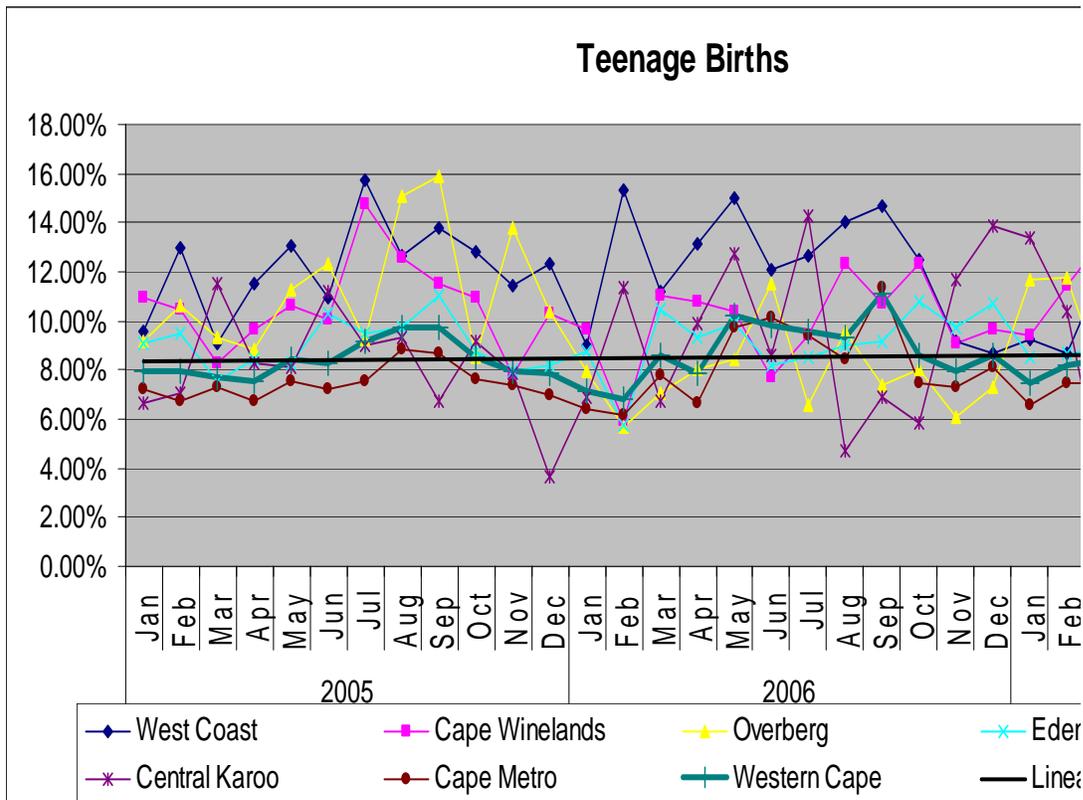
It is evident that HIV prevalence varies in magnitude and growth across the different age groups. In 2006, the highest HIV prevalence was observed amongst women aged 25-29 (21%) and 30-34 (18, 3%) years respectively. Women in these age groups also showed the highest levels of increase for the period 2001 to 2006. Three year trend data revealed a decline in the HIV prevalence amongst women aged 20 years or younger, and in women aged 20-24 years, although the decrease was not statistically significant (Western Cape Provincial Department of Health, 2006:2).

The area-level surveys have highlighted that certain areas within the province such as Khayelitsha, Gugulethu/Nyanga and Knysna/Plettenberg Bay continue to show high levels of HIV infection. This could pose a serious challenge in terms of the delivery of health and social services (as well as for other sectors in various ways).

YOUTH AND TEENAGE PREGNANCIES

Data from the Western Cape Department of Health indicates that there has been an average 8% occurrence rate of the number of births to mothers under the age of 18 from 2005 to 2007. (Figure 2)

Figure 2: Western Cape teenage births 2005-2007



A closer breakdown in **Figure 2** reveals that in 2005 there was a sharp increase in May (13, 07%), July (15, 77%) and September (13, 79%) in the number of teenage births in the West Coast area. The Overberg followed also with a sharp increase in teenage births during August (15, 10%), September (15, 90%) and November (13, 81%). It appears as if there was a trend in the increase in teenage births towards the end of the year. The Western Cape average was 8, 80%. In 2006, the West Coast area again had the highest incidence of teenage births with an average of 12, 29%, followed by the Cape Winelands (9, 92%). Both areas followed a pattern of an increase in teenage births towards the end of the year (August, September and October). However, the West Coast area also showed a sharp increase in teenage births in February (15, 31%) and in May (15, 02%). The Western Cape average was 8, 84% in 2006.

In 2007 the Central Karoo area showed a high incidence of teenage births in January (13, 40%) and then a sharp increase in August (14, 13%) and September (15, 60%). The pattern of an increase in teenage births towards the end of the year appears again in 2007. (Department of Health, PGWC, 2007) A possible explanation could be that conception of pregnancy took place during December school holidays.

The explanation above correlates with the monthly findings from the Marie Stopes abortion clinics countrywide. Statistics given by the Marie Stopes clinics for January 2007 to September 2007 show that the demand for abortions peaked after the 2006 December holidays and again after the mid-year July holidays. Statistics show that the under-18 age group has climbed to represent 4% of the total abortions performed by Marie Stopes South Africa. Ten years ago the figure was 1%. The statistics prove that after every holiday there is an influx of teenagers wanting abortions (<http://www.iol.co.za>. 2008: 11)

YOUTH AND THE INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY: THE INTERNET AND Mxit

Young people are using the Internet in ever-increasing numbers. There is however, lack of research in South Africa and the Western Cape on the number of youth encounter unwanted sexual solicitations and exposure to sexual material and harassment online. International research, however, gave some alarming statistics concerning "youth on line". According to a 2006's Online Victimization of Youth Survey, approximately one in seven youth on line (10 to 17 years) received sexual solicitation or approach over the Internet. The survey found that 34% of the youth had an unwanted exposure to sexual material. Furthermore, 71% reported receiving messages online from someone they don't know; 45% have been asked for personal information by someone they don't know; 30% have considered meeting someone they've only talked to online and 14% have actually met a person face-to-face they've only spoken to over the Internet. An interesting finding is that 71% of all parents stop monitoring their child's use of the Internet after the child turns 14, not knowing that 72% of all Internet-related missing children are 15 years of age or older (Thomas, 2007:7).

Launched in May 2005, the South African-based IM (instant message) service company has grown phenomenally and by 31 January 2007, Mxit had signed up its three millionth subscribers. However, there is evidence of an increasing number of children who have become the victims of people who study, monitor, stalk, lure and eventually kidnap children as a result of their participation on Mxit.

According to a South African newspaper article, Mxit is luring teens and young adults in South Africa into a sordid underworld of sex, treachery, pornography and infidelity. A self-confessed Mxit addict told the newspaper reporter how he accessed the Port Elizabeth chatroom to meet women to have sex with. Despite having a steady girlfriend, he set himself a target to sleep with 100 women and is already on number 23 (Hollands, 2007:1).

An empirical study by Francke and Weideman in 2007 has been done to determine the extent to which South African youth is making use of Mxit, and its effect on them. The purpose of the study was to indicate to parents, employers as well as other relevant stakeholders the level of usage as well as the impact of Mxit on its users. Since the target market of Mxit is the youth, the authors have conducted a survey of a number of school-going and working youth by means of a questionnaire. The sample

consisted of primary school learners, as well as high school learners, higher education learners and young working people. The research methodology used was a literature survey and a questionnaire. *Demographic results indicated that the profile of the typical Mxit user is a female aged above 13 years, who uses Mxit between 18:00 and 24:00, for two hours and less.* The study has shown that the issues surrounding Mxit do not seem to be as serious as reports indicate.

However, incorrect usage of the internet and mobile technology in particular the Mxit application could have a negative impact on users in relation to their personal safety (pornography, sexual abuse etc), their emotional well-being as well as to their productivity at work, school and play. The research has also highlighted the role that parents have to play in understanding and monitoring their children's mobile technology usage (Francke et al, 2007:1)

Although Francke's research on the Mxit phenomenon gave some insights into the impact of mobile technology on the youth, his research sample is too small to draw definite conclusions. More research is needed to determine the impact of internet and mobile technology on the youth.

Challenges youth faces i.e. poverty and unemployment and protective factors identified earlier clearly informs what interventions will be necessary for youth development i.e. awareness on crime and substance abuse, employment enhancement programmes, skills development, access to recreation services or facilities, leadership intervention, a conducive schooling environment, involvement of families in youth related activities, peer group mentoring etc.

5. Stakeholders

To achieve this, the programme partners with a range of service providers across the province.

In order to for them to implement high quality services the DSD provides the legislative framework, policies, funding and capacity building.

It is also necessary to liaise closely with other government departments, local government and community structures so that integrated service delivery is ensured.

The family has a significant role to play as a support to the young person. This programme tries to involve the family in therapeutic interventions

Collaboration with the other DSD programmes is critical to the implementation of the Youth Strategy in a holistic manner.

Integrated Service Delivery Strategy

AWARENESS & PREVENTION

Description

This is the most important aspect of social service delivery. Programmes are designed to create awareness of the rights and responsibilities of youth, the services which are available and how to access them.

Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objective: Youth are aware of their rights and responsibilities and know how to access available youth development ser								
Measurable Objective	Performance Measure/Indicators	Assumptions	Annual Targets					
			2007/08 Year 1	2008/09 Year 2	2009/2010 Year 3	2010/2011 Year 4		
To facilitate annual awareness and prevention programmes in collaboration with relevant stakeholders and Special Programmes linked to youth focal points within 16 districts by 2017	Number of awareness and prevention programmes via the Youth Focal Points with a focus on challenges faced by youth Number of youth receiving the awareness and prevention programmes at the youth focal points	Investing in youth will create a self reliant society		First Quarter 1 awareness and prevention programmes per district First Quarter 1 awareness and prevention programme per district 50 youth per district Second Quarter 1 awareness and prevention programme per district 50 youth per district Third Quarter 1 awareness and prevention programme per district 50 youth per district Fourth Quarter 1 awareness and prevention programme per district 50 youth per district	4 awareness and prevention programmes per district 200 youth per district	4 awareness and prevention programmes per district 300 youth per year per district		

Strategic Objective:

Youth are aware of their rights and responsibilities and know how to access available youth development services

Measurable Objective	Performance Measure/Indicators	Assumptions	Annual Targets				
			2007/08 Year 1	2008/09 Year 2	2009/2010 Year 3	2010/2011 Year 4	
To develop leadership skills through the promotion of volunteerism amongst 100 young people within the youth focal points in the youth development sector by 2017	Number of youth trained as volunteers for the social development sector (HIV/AIDS field, substance abuse sector, old age homes and in correctional facilities)	Youth want to make a positive difference		First Quarter 25 per district Second Quarter 25 per district Third Quarter 25 per district Fourth Quarter 25 per district	100 young people per district	100 young people per district	

Desired Outcomes

Roles of the Provincial Offices

- Coordination of Youth Focal Point implementation (entry point for youth development initiatives).
- Create an enabling environment for District Offices to implement Youth Focal Points
- Identification of best practices with a focus on awareness and prevention for replication within Youth Focal Point.
- District consultation.
- Capacity building of the Youth Focal Point and staff involved in the Youth Focal Point
- Assistance to District Office w.r.t financial planning and project planning and implementation.
- Represent the Youth development programme on a National Level (Forum)
- Represent the Youth Development programme on a Provincial level (Forum)
- Represent the Youth Development Programme on an Interdepartmental (Forum)
- Managing the District Youth Development Forum on a quarterly basis.
- Facilitation of an integrated response to Youth Development according to youth needs.
- Monitoring and evaluation the Youth Development Programme
- Managing an effective reporting system and submit regular reports to the National Department.

Roles and responsibilities of the District Office

- Implementation of the Youth Focal Points in collaboration with the Local Government.
- Managing the Youth Focal Points
- Setting up a Youth Focal Unit within the Youth Focal Points
- Integrate Provincial Special Programmes into the Youth Focal Points i.e. Certificate of Trainer, Artscape, Brawam Siswam etc.

- Adopt a multi disciplinary approach to Youth Development by setting up a team responsible for Youth Development.
- Youth development coordinator to oversee the Youth Development programme with the assistance of Community development Officers etc.
- Stakeholder consultation, internal and external.
- Represent the Youth Programme on the Youth Development Forum Coordinated by the Provincial office.
- Represent the Youth Development Programme on an integrated forum within the District Office
- Constitute a Greater Youth Development Forum consisting of young people, NGO's, FBO's, Local Government Departments, Municipalities, and Business etc.
- Meet with the forum on a quarterly basis
- Community consultation.
- Monitor and evaluating and report progress of the implementation of the Youth Focal Points
- Managing an effective reporting system and submit regular reports to the Provincial Office

Other Partners

- Department of Local Government and Local Authorities, CYT, Project Hope, Brawam Siswam, Big Brother Big Sister,

Proposed basket of services

- Information sessions/workshops on challenges youth faces.
- Links with substance abuse training programmes.
- Links with HIV/AIDS Programme.
- Crime prevention initiatives.
- Links with intergenerational programmes.
- Utilise special days for awareness and prevention programmes.
- Promote Volunteer activities.
- Offering of Life Skills - issues of self esteem, Sexuality, Decision making, gender violence, conflict resolution
- Establish linkages with the Volunteer in order to secure volunteer activities at institutions catering for people with disabilities.
- Establish linkages with intergenerational programmes.
- Information on policies that guide intervention.
- Funding to youth development programmes.

Action Plans

- Provision of a safe environment where young people can attain Life skills by means of the establishment of a Youth Focal Point/ Unit at District Offices of the Department.
- Link youth accessing the Youth Focal Points or Units with the Department's Ke Moja Training Programme
- Link youth accessing the Youth Focal Points and Units with the Departmental HIV/AIDS programme and Love life.
- Link youth with the Big Brother Big Sister programme in terms of crime prevention
- Promoting volunteer programmes – service at homes, schools, projects made possible through the Celebration of Global Youth Service Week on 21- 27 April annually.
- Celebration of National Youth Day 16 June and International Youth day 12 August related to youth development using these platforms to create more awareness on an annual basis.
- Intergrate the Certificate of Youth Trainer programme to provide for life skills to youth accessing the Youth Focal Points.
- Integrate Project Hope into Youth Development programme with a focus on preventing school drop outs.
- Create access to information about Acts and Policy affecting youth that will be made available within the Unit
- Make available up to date information & research about youth within the Unit.
- Facilitate the implementation of public education programmes about services that promote and support the development of youth
- Develop a data base of services available for youth development to be kept update regularly.
- Facilitate the design of communication and marketing material to utilize as a means of creating awareness.
- Public awareness campaigns by youth for youth.
- Leadership camps.
- Policy education workshops.
- Assessment and recommendation in terms of Programme funding.

EARLY INTERVENTION

Description

Services delivered at this level make use of developmental and therapeutic programmes to ensure that those youth who have been identified as being at risk are assisted before they require statutory services, more intensive intervention or placement in alternative care.

Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objective:							
At risk youth are identified early and provided with integrated youth development programmes (Second chance learning recruited trained and place in the community/Young people are recruited and exposed to folkbldning							
Measurable Objective	Performance Measure/Indicators	Assumptions	Annual Targets				
			2007/08 Year 1	2008/09 Year 2	2009/2010 Year 3	2010/2011 Year 4	2011/2012 Year 5
To promote and support service delivery through the integration of special programmes into Youth Focal Points that will provide for skills development to young people by March 2017	Number of youth in basic skills development programmes	Youth want to learn and develop their potential		First Quarter 25 per district Second Quarter 25 per district Third Quarter 25 per district Fourth Quarter 25 per district	Basic skills development programmes to 100 youth per district per year	Basic skills development programmes to 100 youth per district per year	Basic development progr 200 y distric
	Number of youth in Skills development Programmes Including the National Youth Service Programme that will build the capacity and empower young people			Quarter 1-4 100 youth	Quarter 1-4 100 youth	Quarter 1-4 100 youth	Quar 100 ;
	Number of youth linked with exit strategies (internships, learnerships, bursaries) and training programmes			Quarter 1-4 100 youth	Quarter 1-4 100 youth	Quarter 1-4 100 youth	Quar 100 ;
	Number of youth attending Wolwekloof academy.	Youth who failed deserve a second chance.		24	48	48	48
	Number of youth in Masupa-Tsela Youth Pioneer programme	A new cadre of youth that is passionate about their country		150	160	347	347

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Desired Outcomes

Roles of the Provincial Offices

- Identification of best practices for replication within Youth Focal Point
- District consultation.
- Monitoring and evaluation the level of Skills development Implementation for Youth Development.

- **Roles and responsibilities of the District Office**
- Recruit youth for skills development programme.
- Community consultation
- Monitor and evaluating and report progress of the implementation of Early Intervention initiatives awaiting Youth Focal Units
- Managing an effective reporting system and submit regular reports to the Provincial Office

Other Partners

- Wolwekloof, Ukuthwalana, Masupa –Tsela Young Pioneer Programme , EFSA, Cape Nature Conservation, Artscape, Red Door, CYT, Project Hope, Brawam Siswam, Big Brother Big Sister Department of Labour, Department of Education, Department Economic Development, Department of Environmental Affairs, internal stakeholders, youth etc.

Proposed basket of services

- Basic Skills Development programmes.
- Accredited skills development programmes.
- Employment enhancement programmes and opportunities.
- Capacity building.
- Coaching and mentorship
- Exit opportunities
- Facilitate interventions that will address parent (biological and alternative) and child relationships.

Action Plans

- Basic skills development programmes i.e. computer literacy within Youth Focal Points/ Units use ex Ukuthwalana Students as part of the giving back to their communities.
- Accredited skills development programmes, Wolwekloof

- Expose youth to entrepreneurial opportunities i.e. Community Leadership Development programme through EFSA and Red Door and where youth are thought how to write business proposals and how to start their own projects.
- National Youth Service programmes, Cape Nature Conservation, Ukuthwalana.
- Facilitate skills development through the arts and culture i.e. Artscape etc.
- Coaching, guidance and general support to youth with projects and organisations rendering youth development services.
- Capacity building to projects run by youth and initiated through EFSA through the Institutional Capacity Building Programme.
- Link projects run by youth to the Sustainable Livelihood Programme.
- Available Employment preparation Opportunities – computers for typing CV 's, teaching interviewing skills (Department of Labour, Put up a notice board within the Youth Focal Units with bulletins with employment opportunities, make papers available in Units where youth can access to opportunities, controlled internet for assignments and job opportunities.
- Link youth to unemployment database of Department of Labour etc.
- Establish linkages with the Expanded Public Works Programme for skills development.
- Facilitate bursaries internships (Departmental and externally with a focus on scarce skills) and learner ship opportunities for young people.
- Keep database of youth accessing the Youth Focal Units and linking them to available skills programme.
- Link youth and parents with families programme with a focus of enhancing relationships.

STATUTORY

Description

At this level the youth needs legal intervention. Services are aimed at the youth and the family involved. The youth or the perpetrator may need to leave the family whilst alternative care that is in the best interest of the youth is put in place. Alternative care should, wherever possible, be a temporary measure followed by aftercare services that enable the youth to return to the family life. Service providers have a responsibility of ensuring that efficient and effective youth development services are in place.

Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objective: Service Delivery partners comply with the National Policy and Provincial Strategy on Youth Development.							
Measurable Objective	Performance Measure/Indicators	Assumptions	Annual Targets				
			2007/08 Year 1	2008/09 Year 2	2009/2010 Year 3	2010/2011 Year 4	2011/ Year
To ensure that all funded service providers comply with the provisions of their transfer payment agreements through assessment, continuous monitoring and quarterly evaluation by March 2017	Compliance with national and provincial prescripts for youth development Number of assessments Quarterly progress reports	Investing in youth will create a self reliant society		First Quarter Assessments of 7 Provincial programmes Perform oversight role in terms of District based assessment processes Second Quarter 7 Progress reports Third Quarter 7 Progress reports Fourth Quarter 7 Progress reports	First Quarter Assessments of 7 Provincial programmes Perform oversight role in terms of District based assessment processes Second Quarter 7 Progress reports Third Quarter 7 Progress reports Fourth Quarter 7 Progress reports	First Quarter Assessments of 7 Provincial programmes Perform oversight role in terms of District based assessment processes Second Quarter 7 Progress reports Third Quarter 7 Progress reports Fourth Quarter 7 Progress reports	First Quarter Assess of Provinc program Perform oversight role in of I based assess proces: Second Quarter 7 Progress reports Third Quarter 7 Progress reports Fourth Quarter 7 Progress reports

Desired Outcomes

Roles of the Provincial Offices

- Assessment of Recommendation Provincial Programmes
- Administrative processes in terms of funding.
- Oversight role in terms of NGO processes.
- Monitoring and Evaluation

Roles and responsibilities of the District Office

- Assessment of District based plans
- Recommendation
- Site visits

- Monitoring and Evaluation

Other Partners

- No's, Young people

Proposed basket of services

- Funding to the NPO Sector.

Action Plans

- Communicate Departments Integrated strategy to the Youth Development Sector.
- Coordinate funding and monitoring processes for the Youth Development Sector.

REINTEGRATION

Description

Programmes and services at this level are aimed at reintegration in a way that enhances the protection, care and development of youth in order to promote optimal well being.

Strategic Objectives

Strategic Objective: A network of after care support structures and services that assist youth, families and victims of crime and violence reconnection.								
Measurable Objective	Performance Measure/Indicators	Assumptions	Annual Targets					
			2007/08 Year 1	2008/09 Year 2	2009/2010 Year 3	2010/2011 Year 4	2011/2012 Year 5	
To facilitate the reintegration of youth who were in alternative care back into their families and communities by March 2017	Number of youth who are reintegrated through skills development opportunities within the Department into their families and communities	Youth want to learn and develop their potential		Quarter 1-4 50 youth of which 20 spaces will be reserved for youth rehabilitated from substance abuse not excluding youth with disabilities, youth and HIV/AIDS and youth that clashed with the law	Quarter 1-4 50 youth of which 20 spaces will be reserved for youth rehabilitated from substance abuse not excluding youth with disabilities, youth and HIV/AIDS and youth that clashed with the law	Quarter 1-4 50 youth of which 20 spaces will be reserved for youth rehabilitated from substance abuse not excluding youth with disabilities, youth and HIV/AIDS and youth that clashed with the law	Quarter 1-4 50 youth of which 20 spaces will be reserved for youth rehabilitated from substance abuse not excluding youth with disabilities, youth and HIV/AIDS and youth that clashed with the law	Quarter 1-4 50 youth of which 20 spaces will be reserved for youth rehabilitated from substance abuse not excluding youth with disabilities, youth and HIV/AIDS and youth that clashed with the law

Desired Outcomes

Roles of the Provincial Offices

- Identification of best practices for replication within Youth Focal Point
- District consultation.
- Establish linkages with other programmes i.e. substance abuse.
- Monitoring and evaluation the Youth Development Programme
- Managing an effective reporting system and submit regular reports to the Provincial and National Department.

Roles and responsibilities of the District Office

- Assistant Probation Offices with the help of Probation Officers to take responsibility for programmes focussed on reintegration.
- Stakeholder consultation, internal and external.
- Community consultation.
- Monitor and evaluating and report progress of the implementation of reintegration programmes within the Youth Focal Point.
- Managing an effective reporting system and submit regular reports to the Youth Development coordinator.

Other Partners

- Expanded Public Works Programme, ECD Programme , Wolwekloof, Ukuthwalana, Chrysalis, Artscape, EFSA Cape Nature Conservation, Other NGO's, FBO's etc

Proposed basket of services

- Aftercare services
- Skilling (soft and hard) of vulnerable youth.
- Facilitate exit opportunities for skilled youth.
- Funding to youth development programmes.

Action Plans

- Facilitate the connection of youth and their families to a range of appropriate integrated services across DSD programmes, service providers, local government, other government departments and community based structures at a local level.

- Link youth with existing skills development programmes link to special programmes in order to ensure optimal functioning within communities.
- Promote and facilitate the participation of youth in community service.
- Facilitate exit opportunities for skilled youth.
- Assessment and recommendation in terms of Programme funding.

6. Conclusions

This paper outlines a strategy that creates a shift in emphasis from statutory intervention to awareness, prevention, early intervention and reintegration. To achieve this, the Youth Programme is focusing on providing appropriate co-ordinated support for the youth and their family. In addition the programme builds on the strengths of youth through skills development and community service that promote personal responsibility and dignity. This lays the foundation for a positive future by helping youth to become self reliant, responsible citizens.

We have learned that Individual Development Plans that are linked to a network of accessible local services promotes the holistic development of young people. This approach provides opportunity for youth to realize their potential and to contribute to the creation of a self reliant society.

Essential to this is the proper coordination and integration of all the eight programmes of the Department.